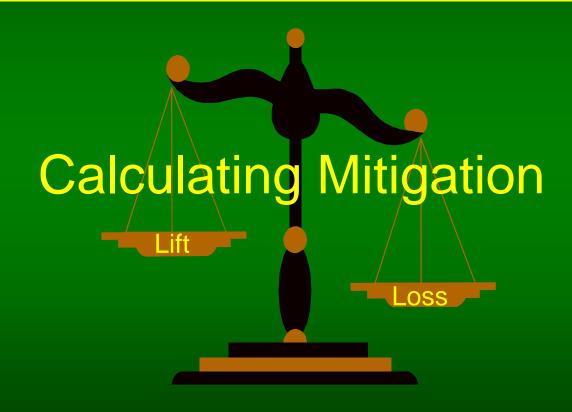


US Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District

version 4.0





version 4.0



Under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program, mitigation is necessary to offset wetland impacts and/or to secondary or cumulative impacts.



version 4.0

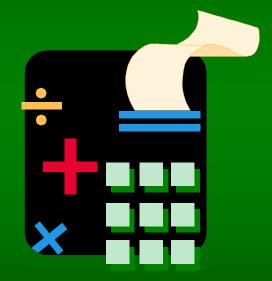


This presentation describes a method that has been developed to be used during a permit review to determine if a proposed mitigation plan is sufficient to offset impacts.



Jacksonville District

version 4.0



This method uses a mathematical process to supplement

but not to supplant

use of professional judgement during a project review.



US Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District

version 4.0



The formula will be placed below.

Each variable will be added as it it is explained during this presentation.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0

We will discuss:

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0

I. Unavoidable Impact

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - A. Defined
 - 1. Concerns
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0

What are our concerns with this mathematical process to calculate mitigation?



- Does this process apply to all mitigation?
- Does this make it easier to permit impacts?
- Will greater impacts be allowed since now can more easily calculate compensation?
- Others?

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - A. Defined
 - 1. Concerns
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

The mathematical process is for unavoidable impacts. This is only one component of the review of a permit.

Following is a brief review of the three documents that describe mitigation is more than just compensation.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - A. Defined
 - 2. Permit Regulation
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

33 CFR 320.4(r)

version 4.0

Corps permits include mitigation to:

- Minimize adverse effects
- Satisfy legal requirements
- Tip the public interest balance.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - A. Defined
 - 3. 404(b)(1)
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

404(b)(1) Guidelines

version 4.0

40CFR230.10(a) "...no discharge...shall be permitted if there is a practicable alternative...which would have less adverse impact on the aquatic ecosystem..."

40CFR230.12(a)(3)(iii) The proposed discharge must "include all appropriate and practicable measures to minimize potential harm to the aquatic ecosystem"

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - A. Defined
 - 4. MOA
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

Corps/EPA MOA

version 4.0

Goal of NO NET LOSS

- "no overall net loss of values and functions"
- recognizes losses will occur in some cases

Goal of "functional value replacement"

- Prefer on-site, in-kind
- Adequate safety margin (prefer restoration)
- One-to-One Acreage replacement may be a "reasonable surrogate"

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - A. Defined
 - 4. MOA (continued)
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

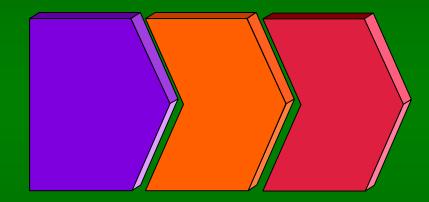
Corps/EPA MOA

(Continued)

version 4.0

Mitigation Sequencing

- Avoidance
- Minimization
- Compensation



Disallows the use of compensatory mitigation to satisfy the alternatives test

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - B. Concerns (Discussion)
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0

After the applicant and the Corps have finished discussing the avoidance and minimization aspects of the project, then they are ready to discuss the compensation of unavoidable project impacts . . .

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - B. Concerns (Discussion)
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

What are our concerns with project impacts?

- Aquatic environment degradation
- Loss of benefits wetland provides
- ?
- Difference between "good" & "poor" wetland
- Many functions present in a wetland
- Some functions important in watershed
- Others?

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - B. Concerns (Discussion)
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

These concerns are incorporated into the following variables.

"Δ" is the Greek symbol "Delta" and is the abbreviation for change. Here, it will mean a change in a wetland function

Weight, "Weighting Factor", will express the relative importance of wetland functions

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - C. Assessment
 - 1. Components
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

Wetland Components

version 4.0



There are many components to a wetland, which when looked at, can help classify a wetlands health.

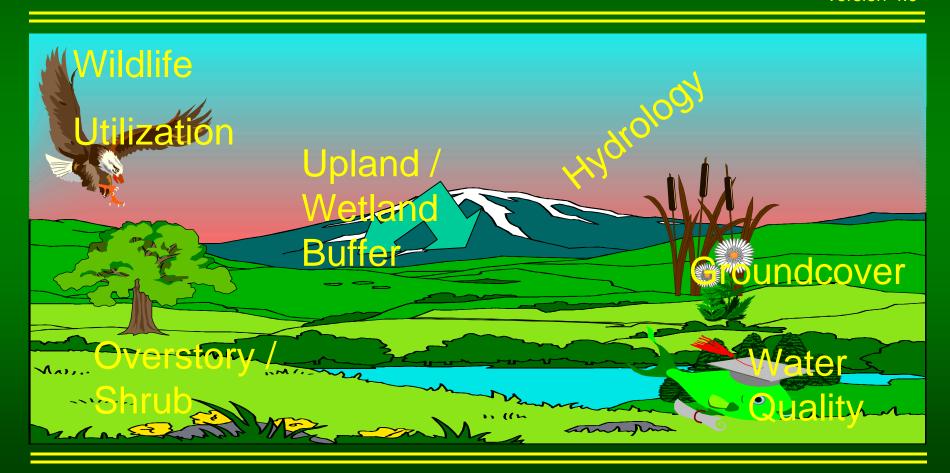
These are . . .

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - C. Assessment
 - 1. Components
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

Wetland Components

(Continued)

version 4.0



- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - C. Assessment
 - 2. Method
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

METHOD

version 4.0



Numeric Functional Assessment

- Purpose: To determine, in a systematic way, the presence or absence of a given wetland component.
- Assumption: Wetlands can be measured by assessing a given set of variables.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - C. Assessment
 - 2. Method
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances



(Continued)

version 4.0

Many methods of assessing the presence of function have been developed, including:

- Habitat Evaluation Procedure (HEP)
- Wetland Evaluation Technique (WET)
- Hydrogeomorphic Methodology (HGM)
- Wetland Rapid Assessment Procedure (WRAP)

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - C. Assessment
 - 2. Method
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances



(Continued)

version 4.0

Any numeric assessment method can be used in calculating mitigation, if:

- the method is technically appropriate for the location and type of impact; and,
 - the same method is used for both the impact and mitigation sites.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - C. Assessment
 - 2. Method
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

METHOD

(Continued)

version 4.0

Federal Agencies are developing HGM for use throughout United States. In interim, Jacksonville District has adopted WRAP.

An applicant is not required to perform WRAP, but inclusion of WRAP or another assessment would expedite the Corps' evaluation of an application.

Now, we will use WRAP to assess the impact site . .

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - C. Assessment
 - 3. WRAP
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

WRAP

version 4.0

The existing condition: Use WRAP to assign a score from 0 to 3 for each of the six components at the impact site as it exists today.

Wildlife Utilization - Overstory - Ground CoverBuffer - Hydrology - Water Quality Input

The with-project condition: For a typical impact, the wetland components are eliminated. Therefore the WRAP scores for each component will be 0.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - C. Assessment
 - 3. WRAP
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances



(Continued)

version 4.0

Now calculate the impact site's change in functions.

| | Wildlife C Utilization | Overstory | Ground Cover | Buffer | Hydrology | Water Quality |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------|-----------|---------------|
| Existing Condition | 0 to 3 | 0 to 3 | 0 to 3 | 0 to 3 | 0 to 3 | 0 to 3 |
| With- Project | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Difference | Δ | Δ | Δ | Δ | Δ | Δ |

This defines the first variable of the equation.



- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - C. Assessment
 - 3. WRAP
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances



version 4.0



Wildlife Overstory Ground Buffer Hydrology Water Utilization Cover Quality

WRAP scores vary from 0 to 3. We must divide each Δ by 3 so that the numbers range from 0 to 1. This is so they can be multiplied by the other factors.

 $\Delta/3$ $\Delta/3$

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - D. Weighting Factor
 - 1. How Combine?
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

How Combine?

version 4.0

| Wildlife Utilization | Overstory | Ground Cover | Buffer | Hydrology | Water Quality |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------|-----------|------------------|
| Δ | Δ | Δ | Δ | Δ | Δ |

We will combine the six "accounts" into a single score by multiplying each by a Weighting Factor.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - D. Weighting Factor
 - 2. Assigning Weight
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0



- Purpose: To apply value judgement to individual functions. For example, wildlife utilization may be more important to society than other components.
- Assumption: All functions may not be equal importance.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - D. Weighting Factor
 - 2. Assigning Weight
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0

How?

- Start with equal weighting.
- Change to unequal weighting if specific information warrants.
- Develop and apply on watershed basis.

Prefer to develop weighting as part of interagency team permitting or other watershed efforts.

△ x Weight

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - D. Weighting Factor
 - 2. Assigning Weight
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

Five questions used to assign weight.

1. Does project result in identifiable ecological benefits to established watershed issues? (i.e., does an increase or decrease of a function or functions affect an issue listed in a watershed plan or other similar effort?)

continued . . .

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - D. Weighting Factor
 - 2. Assigning Weight
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

- 2. Does project result in identifiable benefits to adjacent lands/waters of regional importance? (e.g., is any function particularly important to regionally important downstream waters?)
- 3. Improves status of Federal and/or State listed threatened, endangered or candidate species?

continued . . .

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - D. Weighting Factor
 - 2. Assigning Weight
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

- 4. Restores or creates ecological features considered to be unusual, unique or rare in region? (e.g., will restoration or impact affect certain habitats/functions that have been largely removed in the past.)
 - 5. Special Considerations?

 Δ x Weight

31

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - D. Weighting Factor
 - 3. Calculation
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

Calculation

(Continued)

version 4.0

The sum of the weighting factors will equal 1.

Weight1 + Weight2 + Weight3 + Weight4 + Weight5 + Weight6 = 1

If each of the components are equally important, then each will have 1/6th of the total weight.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - D. Weighting Factor
 - 3. Calculation
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

Calculation

(Continued)

version 4.0

Components can be unequally weighted, but the minimum weight for any component is 1/12.

$$\Delta$$
 Δ Δ Δ Δ Δ Δ Δ x 1/3 x 1/12 X 1/12 x 1/12 x 1/12 Δ 1 Δ 2 Δ 3 Δ 4 Δ 5 Δ 6

The single score =
$$\Delta 1 + \Delta 2 + \Delta 3 + \Delta 4 + \Delta 5 + \Delta 6$$

= $\sum (\Delta \times \text{Weight})$

This defines the second variable of the equation.



- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - E. Units
 - 1. Units per Acre
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

Units per Acre

version 4.0

- The use of this equation at this point will result in the calculation of the "Units per Acre"
- These units relate to presence of function
- This represents the change, per acre, of the presence of function resulting from the mitigation or impact activities.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - E. Units
 - 1. Units per Acre
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

Units per Acre

(Continued)

version 4.0

| • | and the second s | | • | |
|-------------|--|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| IAPA IS 3 | in example | Calculation | tor an u | mnact cita |
| | III CAAIIIDIG | Calculation | i iui aii ii | HUAGE SILE. |
| 0.0.0.0 | | | | |

| | Wildlife Utilization | 🕶 | Ground Cover | Buffer | Hydrology | Water Quality | |
|---|----------------------|---------|-----------------|----------|-----------|------------------|--|
| Existing Conditio | n 1.5 | 1.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 2.5 | |
| With-project | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Δ | 1.5 | 1.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 2.5 | |
| Δ divided by 3 | 1.5 / 3 | 1.5 / 3 | 2.5 / 3 | 2.5/3 | 3.0 / 3 | 2.5 / 3 | |
| X Weight Factor | x 1/3 | X 1/3 | x 1/12 | x1/12 | x 1/12 | x 1/12 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| $(\Delta x \text{ Weight}) =$ | 1.5 / 9 | 1.5 / 9 | 2.5 / 36 | 2.5 / 36 | 3.0 / 36 | 2.5 / 36 | |
| Σ (Δ x Weight) = 22.5 / 36 = 0.625 Units per Acre | | | | | | | |

 \sum (Δ x Weight) = Units per Acre

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - E. Units
 - 2. Calculation
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

Units

version 4.0

Multiplying the Units per Acre by the number of acres over which the activity occurs results in the total number of units of "loss" in the presence of functions resulting from the proposed impact.

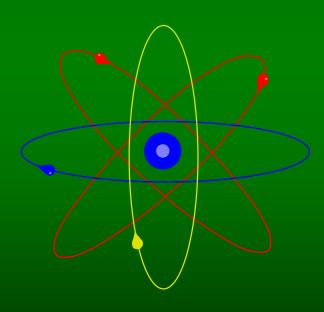
0.625 units/acre X 10 acres = 6.25 units "loss"

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - E. Units
 - 3. Round Off
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

Round Off

version 4.0

0.625 units/acre X 10 acres = 6.25 units "loss"





We do not know the presence of functions down to two decimal places!!

- I. Unavoidable Impact
 - E. Units
 - 3. Round Off
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

Round Off

version 4.0

Retain three decimal places to preserve accuracy as the Δ is multiplied several times within the formula.

Round the resulting number of units to the nearest integer, except for special circumstances (such as for an exceptionally large or small acreage project)

0.625 units/acre X 10 acres = 6.25 6 units "loss"

I. Unavoidable Impact

II. Compensatory Mitigation III. Special Circumstances

Next

version 4.0

Compensatory mitigation must be designed and implemented to replace these 6 units of loss.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0

II. Compensatory Mitigation

I. Unavoidable Impact

II. Compensatory Mitigation

III. Special Circumstances

Next

version 4.0

There are many ways to provide compensatory mitigation.

One way is to create a replacement wetland.

Now we will calculate the number of units provided by this newly created wetland . . .

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - A. On-Site Creation
 - 1. Assessment
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0



Assessment of On-Site Creation uses the same formula but is mathematically the reverse of the impact calculation.

The existing condition: Creation starts with an upland and so the WRAP scores for each component will be 0.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - A. On-Site Creation
 - 1. Assessment
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0



The with-project condition: Next, use WRAP to assign a score from 0 to 3 for each of the six components at the creation site as it is expected to be at full maturity.

Note that for forested systems, the permit may require a final monitoring report at year 5 while full maturity may not occur until long after that!

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - A. On-Site Creation
 - 1. Assessment
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

Full Maturity: The plant community when it has the maximum presence of functions given its landscape position. Forested canopy may not reach full maturity until 40 years or more.

Success Criteria: The plant community at the point it has "proven" the success of the construction and is expected to continue maturing. This is the final permit monitoring report, usually at 3 to 5 years.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - A. On-Site Creation
 - 1. Assessment

III. Special Circumstances

On-Site Creation

(Continued)

version 4.0

Now calculate the increase in functions created.

| | Wildlife Outline Utilization | Overstory | Ground Cover | Buffer | Hydrology | Water Quality |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------|-----------|---------------|
| Existing Condition With- | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Project | 0 to 3 | 0 to 3 | 0 to 3 | 0 to 3 | 0 to 3 | 0 to 3 |
| Difference Adjust WRAP | Δ Δ/3 | Δ Δ/3 | Δ Δ/3 | Δ Δ/3 | Δ Δ/3 | Δ Δ/3 |
| | Δ | Δ | Δ | Δ | Δ | Δ |

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - A. On-Site Creation
 - 1. Assessment
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

We combine the six scores into a single number by multiplying each by the Weighting Factor.

$$\Lambda$$

x Weight1 x Weight2 x Weight3 x Weight4 x Weight5 x Weight6

 $\Delta 2$

 $\Delta 3$

 $\Delta 4$

∧5

\6

The single score = $\Delta 1 + \Delta 2 + \Delta 3 + \Delta 4 + \Delta 5 + \Delta 6$ $= \sum (\Delta \times Weight)$

So far, the same equation as for impact.



- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - A. On-Site Creation
 - 2. Units per Acre
- III. Special Circumstances

Units per Acre

version 4.0

| | He | re is a | n exampl | le calc | ulation | for the | creation | site. |
|--|----|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|----------|-------|
|--|----|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|----------|-------|

| | Wildlife Utilization | The state of the s | Ground Cover | Buffer | Hydrology | Water Quality |
|---|-----------------------------|--|-----------------|----------|------------|------------------|
| Existing Conditio | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| With-project | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 0.5 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| | | | | | | |
| Δ | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 0.5 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Δ divided by 3 | 2.5 / 3 | 2.5 / 3 | 2.5 / 3 | 0.5 / 3 | 2.0 / 3 | 2.0 / 3 |
| X Weight Factor | x 1/3 | X 1/3 | x 1/12 | x1/12 | x 1/12 | x 1/12 |
| | | | | | | |
| $(\Delta \times Weight) =$ | 2.5 / 9 | 2.5 / 9 | 2.5 / 36 | 0.5 / 36 | 5 2.0 / 36 | 2.0 / 36 |
| $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{j$ | $\overline{\Delta}$ x Weigh | t) = 27.0 / | 36 = 0.75 | 50 Units | per Acre | |

[$\sum (\Delta x \text{ Weight})$] = Units per Acre

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - A. On-Site Creation
 - 3. Units (unadjusted)
- III. Special Circumstances

Units (unadjusted)

version 4.0

Multiplying the Units per Acre by the number of acres that will be created will provide the number of units of "lift" representing the increase in the presence of functions resulting from the creation of the wetland.

0.750 units/acre X 20 acres = 15 units "lift" (unadjusted)

The equation is still the same as for impact. But . . .

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - A. On-Site Creation
 - 3. Units (unadjusted)
- III. Special Circumstances

Units (unadjusted)

(Continued)

version 4.0

While an impact activity is relatively straightforward,

There are additional concerns before agreeing to the number of units of "lift" just calculated.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - A. On-Site Creation
 - 4. Concerns.

III. Special Circumstances

Concerns

version 4.0

What are our concerns with on-site creation?

- Time between impact and full maturity
- Some functions mature sooner than others.
- ?
- Events outside of control of manager could affect full maturity
- Not every square foot of the created wetland reaches full maturity.
- Others?

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - A. On-Site Creation
 - 4. Concerns.
- III. Special Circumstances

Concerns

(Continued)

version 4.0

These concerns are incorporated into the following variables.

Temp = Temporal Loss Factor = Adjustment for time

Risk = Risk Factor = Adjustment for uncontrollable events

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - B. Temporal Loss
 - 1. Defined
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0



- Purpose: To take into account the time lag between impact and when mitigation reaches maturity.
- Assumption: There is a time lag between when mitigation is completed and when it is fully replaces lost functions or structure.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - B. Temporal Loss
 - 2. Calculation
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

This graph shows the WRAP score as site matures.



This would be the graph with 'instant' maturity.



The Temporal Factor is area of the top graph divided by the bottom graph. This is third variable.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - B. Temporal Loss
 - 3. Comments
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

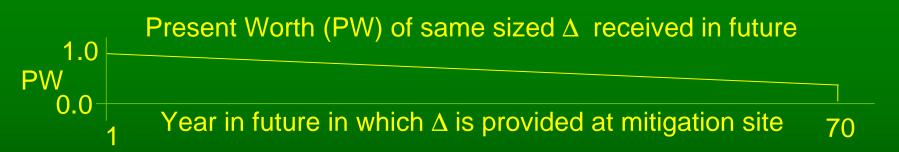
- The Temporal Loss Factor allows mitigation that occurs after impact to be counted as compensation.
- The number of years for a plant community to reach maturity is based on local experience and literature. Also varies depending on climate, planting techniques & etc. Will generally be standardized within a region.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - B. Temporal Loss
 - 3. Comments
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

Temporal Loss Factor is adjusted for "Present Worth" since a Δ "received" in the future is less valuable than if the Δ was "received" today.



The calculation is complicated, but a lookup table is available for day to day use.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - C. Risk
 - 1. Defined
- III. Special Circumstances

Risk

version 4.0



- Purpose: To account for mitigation not being successful.

- Assumption: Mitigation is rarely performed under ideal conditions.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - C. Risk
 - 2. Calculation
- III. Special Circumstances



version 4.0

These considerations are used to estimate risk.

- Mitigation type (creation, restoration, preserve)
- Size of and/or landscape context of the site
- Maintenance requirements
- Maintenance plan

A draft worksheet is available to "score" these.

The Risk Factor = 1.0 if the mitigation is expected to be 100% successful. This is fourth variable.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - C. Risk
 - 3. Comments
- III. Special Circumstances

Risk

(Continued)

version 4.0

- The Risk Factor is related to the Temporal Loss Factor as the type of mitigation is varied.

| | Temporal | Risk |
|--------------|----------|----------|
| Creation | Long | High |
| Restoration | Short | Moderate |
| Preservation | n.a. | Low |

- The administrative constraints on mitigation banks tend to reduce risk to nil (that is, 100% success).

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - D. Temp & Risk
 - 1. Calculation
- III. Special Circumstances

Temp & Risk

version 4.0

Note that Temp and Risk Factors are applied to each wetland "account" individually.

- Some wetland functions mature earlier than others, e.g., hydrology could be fully established sooner than full maturity of the tree saplings.
- Some types of work is less affected then others by outside influences, e.g., hydrology restored from installing a ditch block has less risk than restoration of wildlife habitat adjacent to houses.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - D. Temp & Risk
 - 2. Units per Acre

III. Special Circumstances

Units per Acre

version 4.0

Here are the units per acre for each account that we calculated earlier for the example creation site. Now we will modify these with <u>sample</u> Temps and Risks

```
Wildlife Overstory Ground Buffer Hydrology Water Utilization Cover Quality (\Delta x Weight) = 2.5 / 9 2.5 / 9 2.5 / 36 0.5 / 36 2.0 / 36 2.0 / 36 X Temp Factor x 0.4137 x 0.3312 x0.9324 x 0.9624 x0.9624 x0.9624 X Risk Factor x 0.67 x 0.67 x0.67 x0.67 x0.67 units per acre = 0.077 0.061 0.047 0.009 0.036 0.036 [\Sigma (\Delta x Weight x Temp x Risk)] = 0.266 Units per Acre
```

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - D. Temp & Risk
 - 2. Units per Acre
- III. Special Circumstances

Units per Acre

(Continued)

version 4.0

The Temp Factor for three of the accounts is 0.9654.

- 0.9654 read from the lookup table for 3 years
- 3 years based on estimate when the hydrology, buffer, and water quality functions will mature.

The Temp Factor for overstory is 0.3312.

- 0.3312 read from the lookup table for 41 years.
- 41 years is estimated maturity of saplings.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - D. Temp & Risk
 - 2. Units per Acre
- III. Special Circumstances

Units per Acre

(Continued)

version 4.0

The Risk Factors were all high because:

- This example creation site is small
- The example site will be surrounded by homes
- Natural sheetflow is replaced by drainage system

A worksheet could be used to mathematically score the risk or could use experience from other sites.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - D. Temp & Risk
 - 3. Units

III. Special Circumstances

Units

version 4.0

Multiplying the Units per Acre by the number of acres that will be created will provide the number of units of "lift". This is the increase in the presence of functions resulting from the creation of the wetland.

0.266 units/acre X 20 acres = 5.32 5 units "lift"

Now we will compare this to impact site . . .

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - E. Project Total
 - 1. Compare
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0

For the impact site:

0.625 units/acre X 10 acres = 6.25 6 units "loss"

For the creation site:

0.266 units/acre X 20 acres = 5.32

5 units "lift"

The proposed project will result in a net change in the presence of functions:

Net = (6 units "loss") - (5 units "lift") = 1 unit "loss"

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - E. Project Total
 - 2. Adjust
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

Impact: 0.625 units/acreX10 acres=6.25 6 units "loss" Created: 0.266 units/acreX20 acres=5.32 5 units "lift" Net = (6 units "loss") - (5 units "lift") = 1 unit "loss"

If the quantity of lift equals the loss, then the project is assumed to provide sufficient compensatory mitigation, subject to common sense (for example, creation of mangrove does not compensate for impacts to cypress).

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - E. Project Total
 - 2. Adjust
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

Impact: 0.625 units/acreX10 acres=6.25 6 units "loss" Created: 0.266 units/acreX20 acres=5.32 5 units "lift" Net = (6 units "loss") - (5 units "lift") = 1 unit "loss"

Options to bring the Net to zero:

- Adjust number of acres
- Change management of work to reduce risk or other variable
- Add another mitigation location

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - E. Project Total
 - 2. Adjust
- III. Special Circumstances

(Continued)

version 4.0

Impact: 0.625 units/acreX10 acres=6.25 6 units "loss" Created: 0.266 units/acreX20 acres=5.32 5 units "lift" Net = (6 units "loss") - (5 units "lift") = 1 unit "loss"

For our example, we will add another mitigation location to the project. However, instead of creating a wetland, we will restore an existing wetland.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - F. Restoration
 - 1. WRAP
- III. Special Circumstances

Restoration

(Continued)

version 4.0



The existing condition: Use WRAP to assign a score from 0 to 3 for each of the six components at the impact site as it exists today.

The with-project condition: Next, use WRAP to assign a score from 0 to 3 for each of the six components at the creation site as it is expected to be at full maturity.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - F. Restoration
 - 1. WRAP
- III. Special Circumstances

Restoration

(Continued)

version 4.0



Note the WRAP scores to calculate Δ vary depending on the type of activity.

| | Existing Condition | With-Project |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Impact | 0 to 3 | 0 |
| Creation | 0 | 0 to 3 |
| Restoration | 0 to 3 | larger 0 to 3 |



The formula is the same for each type of activity!

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - F. Restoration
 - 2. Units
- III. Special Circumstances

Units

version 4.0

Sample calculation for our restoration site.

| | Wildlife | Overstory | Ground | Buffer | Hydrology | Water |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| l | Jtilization | | Cover | | | Quality |
| Existing Condition | 1.0 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| With-project | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| | | | | | | |
| Δ | 1.5 | 2.0 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Δ divided by 3 | 1.5 / 3 | 2.0 / 3 | 1.5 / 3 | 1.5 / 3 | 0.5 / 3 | 0.5 / 3 |
| X Weight Factor > | < 1/3 | X 1/3 | x 1/12 | x1/12 | 2 x 1/12 | x 1/12 |
| | | | | | | |
| $(\Delta \times Weight) = 1$ | .5 / 9 | 2.0 / 9 | 1.5 / 36 | 1.5 / 36 | 0.5 / 36 | 0.5 / 36 |
| | Continued next page | | | | | |

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - F. Restoration
 - 2. Units
- III. Special Circumstances

Units

(Continued)

version 4.0

Continued . . .

0.168 units/acre X 6 acres = 1.01 units "lift"

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - G. Revised Project
 - 1. Calculation
- III. Special Circumstances

Revised Project

version 4.0

Impact: 0.625 units/acreX10 acres=6.25 6 units "loss"

Created: 0.266 units/acreX20 acres=5.32 5 units "lift"

Restore: 0.168 units/acreX 6 acres=1.01 1 unit "lift"

Net = (5 units + 1 unit) "lift" - 6 units "loss" = 0 units

The compensatory mitigation provides replacement functions essentially equal to the functions lost.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - G. Revised Project
 - 2. Ratio
- III. Special Circumstances

Ratio

version 4.0

Impact: 0.625 units/acreX10 acres=6.25 6 units "loss" Created: 0.266 units/acreX20 acres=5.32 5 units "lift" Restore: 0.168 units/acreX 6 acres=1.01 1 unit "lift" Net = (5 units + 1 unit) "lift" - 6 units "loss" = 0 units

How does one compare this to the mitigation "ratio"? The mitigation ratio is based on acres.

Ratio = (20acres+6acres) "lift" / 10acres "loss" = 2.6:1

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
 - G. Revised Project
 - 3. Tally Polygon
- III. Special Circumstances

Tally Polygon

version 4.0

Each activity and its acreage is called a "Polygon" A project is subdivided into polygons. The mitigation plan will include a tally of the polygons.

Net = (5 units + 1 unit) "lift" - 6 units "loss" = 0 units

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation

III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0



These are the fundamentals common to all projects.

Now for some of the special circumstances . . .

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0

III. Special Circumstances

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances

version 4.0

The special circumstances are:

- Off-site mitigation (proximity factor)
- Secondary Impact (and Large Preserves)
- Preservation

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 1. introduction

Off-Site Mitigation

version 4.0



What if the mitigation is off-site?

- Off-site location that is contiguous with other natural areas is more appropriate than on-site "postage stamp"
- This may better address watershed issues

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 2. Concerns

Concerns

version 4.0

What are our concerns with off-site mitigation?

- Wildlife different?
- Different receiving water bodies (especially for water quality function)?
- If impact is large % of small watershed, will it be fully compensated by mitigation in another watershed?
- Others?

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 2. Concerns

Concerns

(Continued)

version 4.0

These concerns are incorporated into the Proximity Factor variable.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 3. Proximity Factor

Proximity Factor

version 4.0



- Purpose: To take into account distance between the impact and mitigation sites.
- Assumption: Mitigation in the same watershed as the impact is optimal.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 3. Proximity Factor

Proximity Factor

(Continued)

version 4.0

This factor has two components.

- Fish and Wildlife (based on number of guilds at sites)
- Diminishing Relevance (based on watersheds)

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 4. Fish & Wildlife

Fish & Wildlife

version 4.0

The Fish & Wildlife component is based on two questions.

Question A: Is the guild represented at the impact site? Answer either yes or no for each guild.

Neotropical Migrants Reptiles

Wading Birds Freshwater Fish

Raptors Small Mammals

Waterfowl Large Mammals

Amphibians Invertebrates

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 4. Fish & Wildlife

Fish & Wildlife

(Continued)

version 4.0

Question B: Does location of the mitigation relative to impact **reduce** the ability to mitigate that guild?

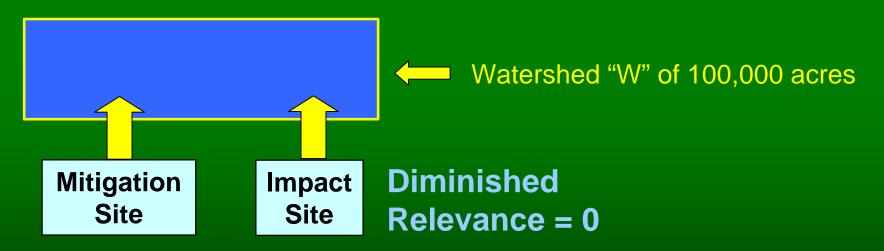
| | A | В | | A | В |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----------------|-----|-----|
| Neotropicals | no | | Reptiles | yes | no |
| Wading Birds | yes | yes | Freshwater Fish | yes | no |
| Raptors | no | | Small Mammals | yes | yes |
| Waterfowl | yes | no | Large Mammals | no | |
| Amphibians | yes | no | Invertebrates | yes | no |

Fish & Wildlife Score = B yes's \div A yes's = 2 / 7

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 5. Diminish Relevance

version 4.0

If the impact site is in the same watershed as the mitigation site, the Diminishing Relevance score = 0



- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 5. Diminish Relevance

(Continued)

version 4.0



Mitigation **Impact** Site Site

If the impact site is in another watershed, then the math is more complicated.

First, one must define the "Service Area" for the mitigation site . . .

Watershed "Y" of 100,000 acres

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 5. Diminish Relevance

(Continued)

version 4.0

The Service Area is the watershed or watersheds within which impacts can be appropriately compensated at the mitigation site.

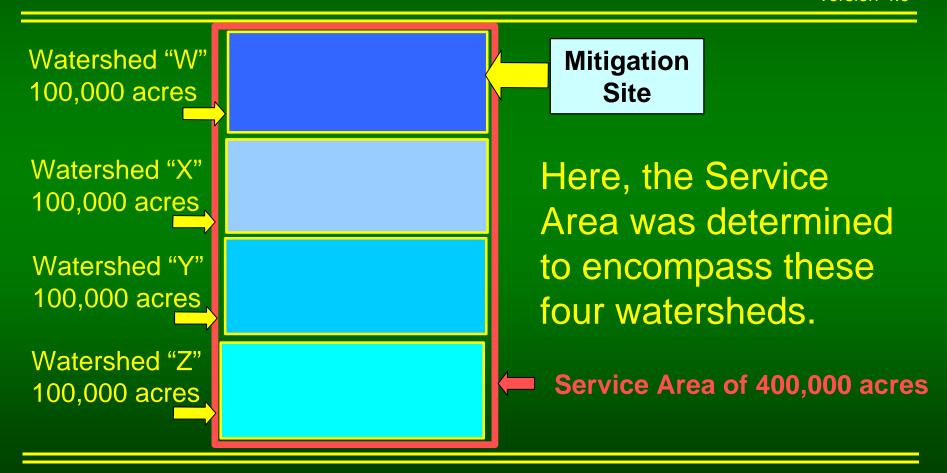
For a Mitigation Bank, this will be defined in the Mitigation Bank Instrument.

For other mitigation, this must be determined at the time the application is reviewed.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 5. Diminish Relevance

(Continued)

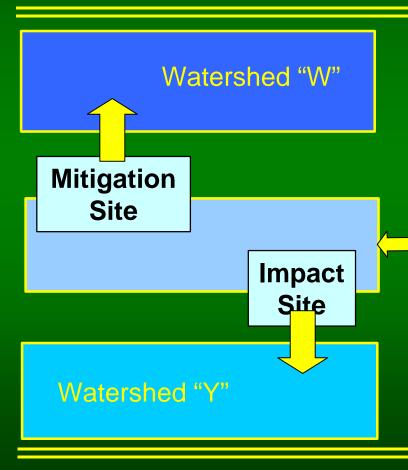
version 4.0



- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 5. Diminish Relevance

(Continued)

version 4.0



Second, find the watershed or watersheds that are between the impact and mitigation sites.

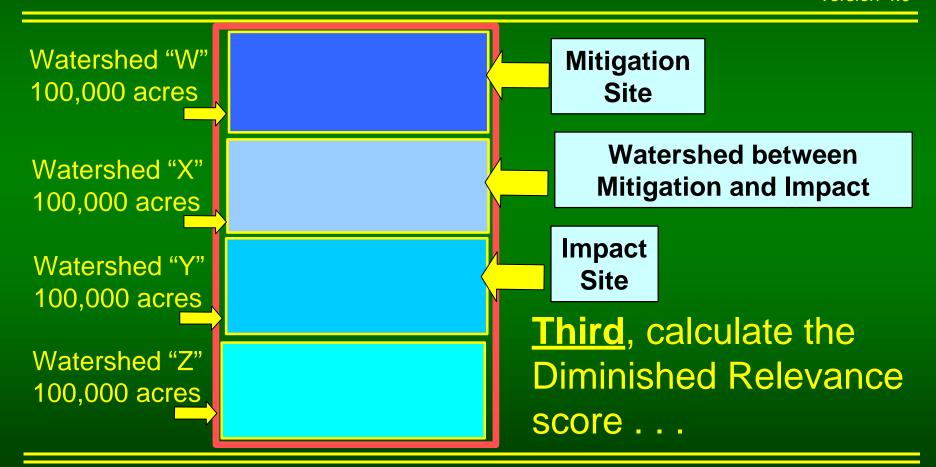
■ Watershed "X" 100,000 acres

We found one watershed in this example. Now mark this on the Service Area map . . .

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 5. Diminish Relevance

(Continued)

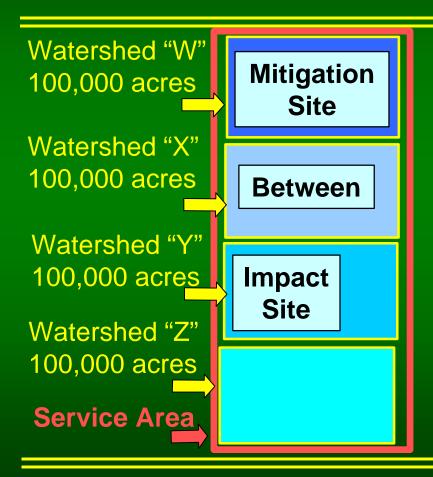
version 4.0



- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 5. Diminish Relevance

(Continued)

version 4.0



$$= \begin{bmatrix} (300,000) \\ ----- - 1 \\ (100,000) \end{bmatrix} \div \begin{bmatrix} (400,000) \\ ----- - 1 \\ (100,000) \end{bmatrix}$$

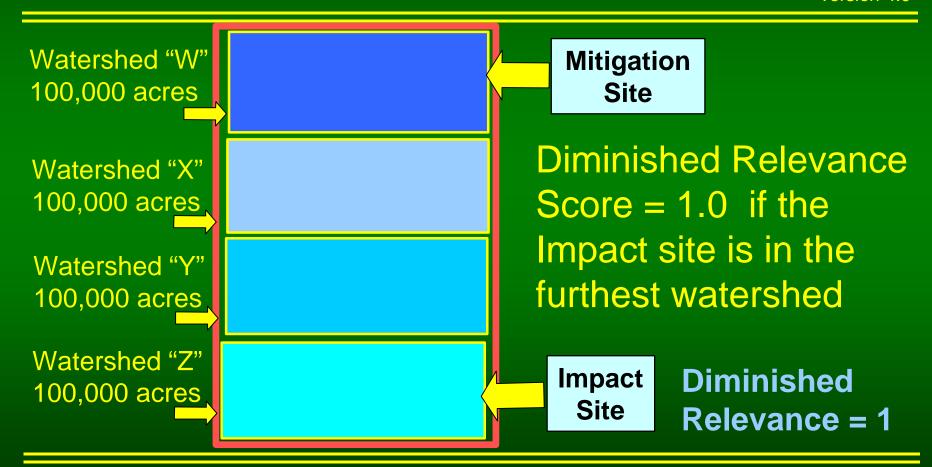
= 2/3 = score for impact site in "Y"

Score is based on a ratio of the acres of the watersheds.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 5. Diminish Relevance

(Continued)

version 4.0



- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - A. Off-Site mitigation
 - 6. Calculation

Calculation

version 4.0

At last! The Proximity Factor is calculated by finding the average of the two component scores.

This is the fifth variable in the formula. Note that if the mitigation and impact is in the same watershed, the Proximity Factor = 1

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - B. Secondary Impact
 - 1. introduction

Secondary Impact

version 4.0



Wetlands can be impacted even if fill is not placed directly on them.

Wetlands are affected by activities adjacent to it.

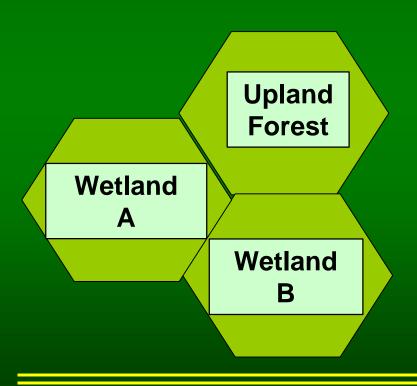
- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - B. Secondary Impact
 - 2. Illustration

Secondary Impact

(Continued)

version 4.0

We will assess the impact on Wetland A.



Existing Condition. The wetland has surrounding natural vegetation. It receives clean runoff, is connected to a larger area of habitat, and is buffered from other uses.

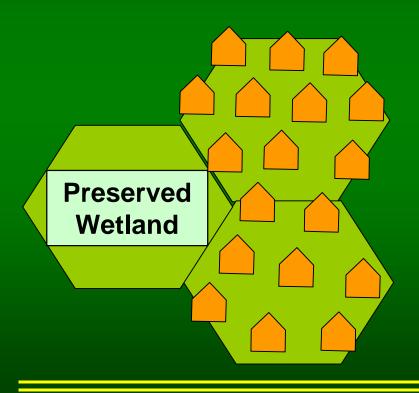
- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - B. Secondary Impact
 - 2. Illustration

Secondary Impact

(Continued)

version 4.0

We then build houses but preserve Wetland A.



With Project Condition. The wetland is now smaller and is impacted by the houses. The numeric functional assessment will be lower than the existing but not zero.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - B. Secondary Impact
 - 3. Comparison

Types of Activities

version 4.0



We add one more type of activity to our comparison table.

| Secondary Impact | 0 to 3 | smaller 0 to 3 |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Restoration | 0 to 3 | larger 0 to 3 |
| Creation | 0 | 0 to 3 |
| Impact | 0 to 3 | 0 |
| | Existing Condition | With-Project |



- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - B. Secondary Impact
 - 4. Buffer

Buffer

version 4.0

We then provide a buffer to Wetland A.



With Project Condition. Is still an impact but not the same as the last example.

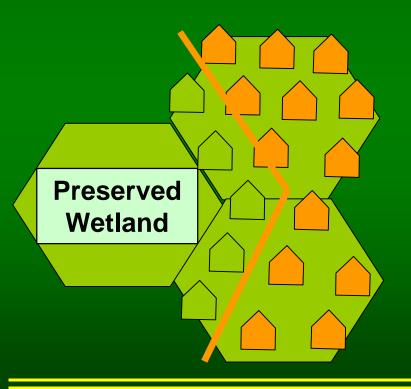
A buffer is one product/goal of the the minimization aspect of mitigation.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - B. Secondary Impact
 - 4. Buffer

Buffer (Continued)

version 4.0

A "preserved wetland" is an impact?!



Adjacent work can degrade a preserved wetland.

The activity may be on an upland.

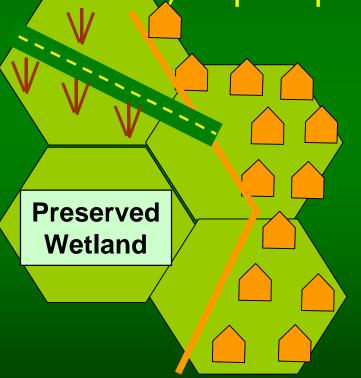
- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - B. Secondary Impact
 - 4. Buffer

Buffer

(Continued)

version 4.0

Secondary Impact part of Corps permit review?



No, if all activity is on upland. No Corps permit!

Yes, if some portion of activity requires a Corps permit (for example, if requires fill in wetland for an access road)

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - B. Secondary Impact
 - 4. Buffer

Buffer

(Continued)

version 4.0

How can mitigate for secondary impact?



The degradation resulting from change in adjacent land use can be sometimes be countered by performing restoration or other work within the Preserved Wetland.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - B. Secondary Impact
 - 5. Large Preserves

Large Preserves

version 4.0

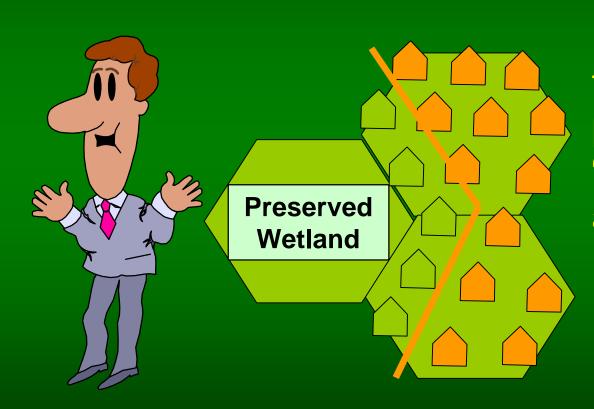
Note: divide large preserves into two portions

- 1- The "fringe" areas
- 2 The "core" areas are not affected by the work

Calculate the change in function (impact) for each of the fringe areas. The core areas have no change.

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - C. Preservation
 - 1. Introduction

version 4.0



Lets agree that this represents a project that has "passed" the avoidance, minimization, and mitigation requirements . . .

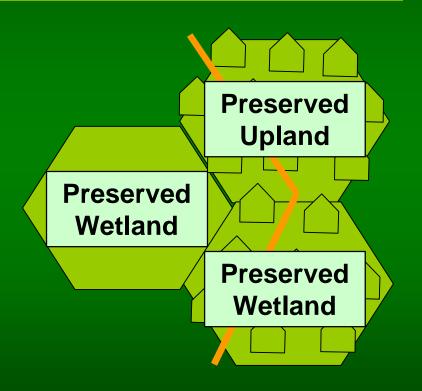
- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - C. Preservation
 - 1. Introduction

(Continued)

version 4.0

... But instead of building, we place an easement or transfer title that prevents the houses being built.

We now calculate the number of units of "lift" based on removing this development threat . . .



- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - C. Preservation
 - 2. Calculation

(Continued)

version 4.0

Without Project Condition.
This is condition of the site that is likely to occur. Is the result of "..a demonstrable threat of aquatic function degradation due to human activities that might not otherwise be expected to be



restricted."

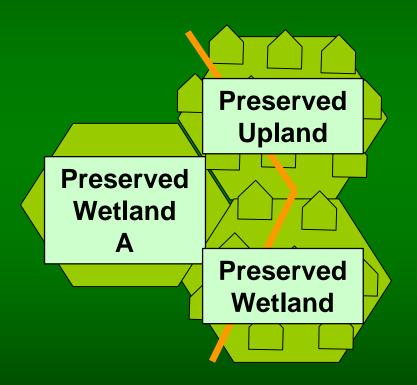
(Joint State/Federal Mitigation Bank Review Team Process, Operational Draft, October 1998)

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - C. Preservation
 - 2. Calculation

(Continued)

version 4.0

Existing Condition. Is the condition "today." The only change from the "Without Project" condition is the placement of a conservation easement, change in ownership, etc., that restricts use of site.

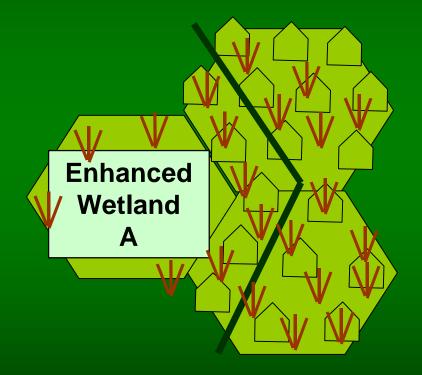


- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - C. Preservation
 - 2. Calculation

(Continued)

version 4.0

With Project Condition. Is the condition the result of physical work within the wetland itself and/or work in adjacent areas that then benefit the wetland.



- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - C. Preservation
 - 2. Calculation

version 4.0

The calculation has three steps.



Step 1 Without Project Existing Condition

Calculate difference in function due to preservation

Step 2 Existing With Project Condition

Calculate difference due to physical enhancement/restoration

Step 3 Total units of "lift" = Step 1 + Step 2

- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - C. Preservation
 - 3. Comparison

Types of Activities

version 4.0

Now add this to our comparison table.

| 3 |
|---|
| |
| |



- I. Unavoidable Impact
- II. Compensatory Mitigation
- III. Special Circumstances
 - C. Preservation
 - 3. Comparison

Types of Activities

version 4.0

| | Without Project | Existing | With-Project |
|------------------|-----------------|----------|----------------|
| Impact | Not applicable | 0 to 3 | 0 |
| Creation | Not applicable | 0 | 0 to 3 |
| Restoration | Not applicable | 0 to 3 | larger 0 to 3 |
| Secondary Impact | Not applicable | 0 to 3 | smaller 0 to 3 |
| Preservation | smaller 0 to 3 | 0 to 3 | larger 0 to 3 |

A preservation polygon will have two Δ 's



Preserve



Enhance / Restore



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Jacksonville District

version 4.0



Fill-in-the-blank worksheets are available. Their use is optional. They record and present the calculations for permit review.

| Polygon Worksheet | version 4.0 | Polygon # | Р |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| P1.0 Description: | | | |
| If this polygon describes an impact activity | (that is, not mitigation), | then leave sections P2.0 and | P4.0 blank. |
| Worksheet Wildlife Oversto copied from Utilization /Shrul | | Wet Hydrology Water iffer Quality | Units/Acre subtotals |
| P2.0 "Without Project" Condition. Probable fut | | | |
| P2.1 Scores from WRAP Field Data Sh | eet but converted to decir | mal (divide raw score by 3.0) | 1 |
| P2.2 Copy Weight Factor from line G8. | 1 or G8.2 or G8.3 depend | ling on which WRAP is "N/A" | - |
| G | | | |
| P2.3 Weighted "Without Project" Sub-S | core. Multiply line WRA | P score by Weight Factor | - |
| P2.1 X P2.2 | | | |
| P3.0 "Existing" Condition. Observed condition | | | |
| P3.1 Scores from WRAP Field Data Sh | eet but converted to deci | nai (divide raw score by 3.0) | 1 |
| | | | |
| P3.2 Same Weight Worksheet as P2.2. | Copy G8.1 or G8.2 or G | 8.3 depending on which is "N/A" | - |
| G see P2.2 | | | |
| P3.3 Weighted "Existing" Sub-Score. I | Multiply WRAP score by \ | Weight Factor | _ |
| (P3.1)X(P3.2) | | | |
| P4.0 "Existing" minus "Without" = Units/Ac | re of functional LIFT as | cribed to preservation of site | Preserve |
| (P3.3)-(P2.3) + | + + | + + | = |
| P5.0 "With Project" Condition. For impact, typ | | | |
| P5.1 Scores from WRAP Field Data Sh | eet but converted to decir | mal (divide raw score by 3.0) | 7 |
| w | | | |
| P5.2 Same Weight Worksheet as P2.2. | Copy G8.1 or G8.2 or G | 8.3 depending on which is "N/A" | _ |
| G see P2.2 | | | |
| P5.3 Weighted "With Project" Sub-Scor | e. Multiply WRAP score | by Weight Factor | _ |
| (P5.1)X(P5.2) | | | |
| P6.0 "With Project" minus "Existing" = Unit | s/acre of functional LIF | T (mitigation) or LOSS (impact |) |
| (P5.3)-(P3.3) | | | |
| P7.0 Temporal Loss Factor "T" copied from the | table (separate workshe | et) based on YS and YF | _ |
| YS (Year Start) YF (Year Finish) | | - | - |
| T (Table) | | | |
| P8.0 Risk Factor "R" = 0.90 if 10% of the LIFT | (line P6 0) may not occur | r Estimate or use worksheet | _ |
| P P | U.O.O. May not occu | Lournate of use worksheet. | 7 |
| P9.0 LIFT/LOSS X "T" X "R" = Units/Acre fu | nctional LIET/LOSS from | n construction activity | Balance |
| | | construction activity | Dalance |
| (P6.0)X(T)X(R) + | | † | <u> </u> |



of Engineers
Jacksonville District

version 4.0

Details on this topic are found in the <u>Joint</u>
<u>State/Federal Mitigation Bank Review Team</u>
<u>Process</u>, Operational Draft, October 1998

Questions?

http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/permit

